**Table 1, Supplementary material, Baseline characteristics**

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| **Baseline characteristics**  |
| **Variables**  | **Overall (475)** | **Early****(N=435)** | **Late****(N=40)** | **P-value** |
|
| **Age (Years), Mean ± SD** | 61.7 ±14.23 | 62.1 ± 14.35 | 57.8 ± 12.24 | 0.06\* |
| **Gender – Male, n (%)** | 341 (71.8 ) | 307 (70.6) | 34 (85.0) | 0.05^^ |
| **Gender - Female, n (%)** | 134 (28.2 ) | 128 (29.4) | 6 (15.0) |
| **Weight (kg), Mean ± SD** | 82.1 ± 18.75 | 81.8 ± 18.57 | 85.6 ± 20.63 | 0.63\* |
| **Height (cm), Mean ± SD** | 163.2 ± 11.41 | 162.9 ± 11.58 | 166.2 ± 8.85 | 0.10\* |
| **BMI, Mean ± SD** | 30.7 ± 6.95 | 30.8 ± 6.90 | 30.5 ± 7.67 | 0.41\* |
| **APACHE II score, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 12.0 (8.00, 21.00) | 12.0 (8.00, 21.50) | 12.0 (7.00, 21.00) | 0.56^ |
| **SOFA score, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 5.0 (3.00, 7.00) | 5.0 (3.00, 7.00) | 5.0 (3.00, 8.00) | 0.99^ |
| **NUTRIC score, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 3.0 (2.00, 5.00) | 3.0 (2.00, 5.00) | 3.0 (2.00, 6.00) | 0.75^ |
| **Tocilizumab use during ICU, n (%)** | 169 (35.6) | 152 (34.9) | 17 (42.5) | 0.34^^ |
| **Glasgow coma score, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 15.0 (14.00, 15.00) | 15.0 (14.00, 15.00) | 15.0 (11.00, 15.00) | 0.45^ |
| **Serum creatinine, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 90.0 (70.00, 135.00) | 89.0 (69.00, 136.00) | 98.0 (74.00, 121.00) | 0.34^ |
| **eGFR baseline, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 76.0 (45.00, 97.00) | 76.0 (44.00, 97.00) | 67.0 (48.00, 96.00) | 0.71^ |
| **UOP (mls/kg/hour) within 24 hours of ICU admission, Mean (SD)** | 0.7 (0.52) | 0.7 (0.51) | 0.6 (0.66) | 0.14^ |
| **Acute kidney injury (AKI) within 24 hours of ICU admission, n (%)** | 136 (28.8) | 124 (28.6) | 12 (30.8) | 0.77^^ |
| **MV needs within 24 hours, n (%)** | 316 (66.7) | 287 (66.0) | 29 (74.4) | 0.29^^ |
| **Blood sugar level, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 12.2 (8.70, 17.20) | 12.3 (8.70, 17.40) | 10.8 (8.70, 13.90) | 0.14^ |
| **Lactic acid baseline, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 1.8 (1.37, 2.50) | 1.8 (1.37, 2.51) | 1.6 (1.37, 2.12) | 0.36^ |
| **Platelets count, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 252.0 (193.00, 325.00) | 252.0 (194.50, 329.00) | 252.0 (173.00, 321.00) | 0.53^ |
| **Total WBC, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 9.9 (6.98, 14.40) | 9.7 (6.99, 14.40) | 10.5 (6.43, 13.95) | 0.59^ |
| **INR, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 1.1 (1.03, 1.15) | 1.1 (1.03, 1.15) | 1.1 (1.04, 1.21) | 0.15^ |
| **aPTT, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 29.2 (26.40, 32.80) | 29.2 (26.50, 32.70) | 30.0 (25.00, 32.90) | 0.93^ |
| **Total bilirubin, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 10.0 (7.00, 14.00) | 10.0 (7.10, 14.00) | 9.3 (6.90, 13.95) | 0.96^ |
| **ALT, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 41.0 (26.50, 66.00) | 41.0 (27.00, 66.00) | 44.0 (24.50, 69.50) | 0.89^ |
| **AST, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 56.0 (36.00, 80.00) | 56.0 (36.00, 81.00) | 55.0 (39.00, 73.00) | 0.74^ |
| **Albumin, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 33.0 (30.00, 36.00) | 33.0 (30.00, 36.00) | 35.3 (30.00, 37.50) | 0.17^ |
| **BUN, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 7.3 (5.20, 11.55) | 7.3 (5.20, 11.60) | 8.0 (5.60, 11.50) | 0.98^ |
| **CPK (U/l), Median (Q1, Q3)** | 188.5 (69.00, 477.00) | 181.5 (66.50, 477.00) | 293.5 (144.50, 499.00) | 0.08^ |
| **CRP (mg/l), Median (Q1, Q3)** | 154.0 (85.00, 221.00) | 154.0 (86.00, 221.00) | 153.0 (72.00, 221.50) | 0.81^ |
| **Procalcitonin (ng/ml), Median (Q1, Q3)** | 0.3 (0.13, 1.04) | 0.3 (0.13, 1.14) | 0.4 (0.20, 0.73) | 0.35^ |
| **Ferritin (ug/l), Median (Q1, Q3)** | 845.4 (421.40, 2000.00) | 831.4 (414.00, 1930.00) | 1072.7 (605.00, 2557.60) | 0.11^ |
| **Fibrinogen (gm/l), Median (Q1, Q3)**  | 7.0 (5.00, 401.00) | 7.0 (5.00, 377.00) | 6.6 (5.22, 656.00) | 0.78^ |
| **D-dimer/fibrinogen ratio**  | 13.2 (2.35, 35.70) | 13.2 (2.35, 35.70) | 10.5 (2.97, 16.42) | 0.40^ |
| **Bicarbonate, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 21.0 (19.00, 24.00) | 21.0 (19.00, 24.00) | 22.0 (18.00, 24.00) | 0.55^ |
| **Chloride, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 103.0 (99.93, 106.00) | 103.0 (100.00, 107.00) | 100.8 (98.00, 104.00) | 0.01^ |
| **Potassium, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 4.2 (3.80, 4.80) | 4.2 (3.80, 4.90) | 4.2 (3.70, 4.70) | 0.32^ |
| **Sodium, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 137.3 (135.00, 141.00) | 138.0 (135.00, 141.00) | 136.0 (134.00, 139.00) | 0.09^ |
| **Hematocrit, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 0.4 (0.36, 0.46) | 0.4 (0.36, 0.45) | 0.4 (0.38, 0.48) | 0.09^ |
| **Calculated serum osmolality, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 288.6 (280.40, 296.21) | 288.8 (281.00, 296.70) | 283.5 (274.32, 293.65) | 0.05^ |
| **FIO2 of MV during ICU stay within 24hr, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 80.0 (60.00, 100.00) | 80.0 (60.00, 100.00) | 80.0 (60.00, 95.00) | 0.74^ |
| **PaO2 FiO2 ratio within 24 hours of admission, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 72.9 (51.11, 108.33) | 73.0 (51.11, 108.43) | 68.7 (48.80, 98.33) | 0.88^ |
| **Ph within 24 hours of admission, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 7.4 (7.35, 7.46) | 7.4 (7.35, 7.46) | 7.4 (7.38, 7.46) | 0.97^ |
| **Highest heart rate, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 101.0 (91.00, 114.00) | 101.0 (91.00, 114.00) | 105.0 (93.00, 116.00) | 0.30^ |
| **Lowest MAP, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 72.0 (64.00, 83.00) | 72.0 (63.00, 83.00) | 74.0 (68.00, 82.50) | 0.20^ |
| **Highest respiratory rate, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 29.0 (24.00, 34.00) | 29.0 (24.00, 34.00) | 30.0 (24.00, 35.00) | 0.80^ |
| **T max, Median (Q1, Q3)** | 37.4 (37.00, 38.00) | 37.3 (37.00, 38.00) | 37.7 (37.20, 38.40) | 0.01^ |
| **Negative fluids cumulative balance within 24 hours of ICU admission, n (%)** | 157 (37.1) | 147 (37.8) | 10 (29.4) | 0.33^^ |
| **Positive fluids cumulative balance within 24 hours of ICU admission, n (%)** | 266 (62.9) | 242 (62.2) | 24 (70.6) |
| **Hospital Center, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |
| **King Abdulaziz Medical City (KAMC), Riyadh**  | 374 (78.74) | 342 (91.44) | 32 (8.56) | 0.83^^ |
| **King Abdulaziz University Hospital (KAUH), Jeddah** | 101 (21.26) | 93 (92.08) | 8 (7.92) |
| -Denominator of the percentage is the total number of patients\*T-Test / ^ Wilcoxon rank sum test was used to calculate the P-value.^^ Chi-square/ \*\* Fisher's Exact test was used to calculate P-value. |